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August 18, 1997

Girlamo DiChiara, Chief Construction-Operations Division Jacksonville District Corps of Engineers P. O. Box 4970 Jacksonville, FL 32232-0019

Re: Public Notice Number PN-IWW-215

Dear Mr. DiChiara:

District staff has reviewed the public notice regarding this proposed dredging and spoil deposition project. This project will require an Environmental Resource Permit (ERP) which, pursuant to the operating agreement between the District and the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP), will be processed by the DEP. Some of the proposed spoil sites are adjacent to District owned properties and have the potential to affect these properties or access to these properties. For this reason, the District requests to be kept informed as to the final locations of disposal sites and the status of the permit applications.

Please send this information to: Gloria Lewis, Director,

**Division of Permit Data Services** 

P. O. Box 1429

Palatka, FL 32178-1429

Thank you.

Sincerely

Glenn Lowe, Director

Division of/Environmental Resource Management

Department of Resource Management

cc: Patrick Frost Gloria Lewis Rich Turnbull DIVISIONS OF FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Office of the Secretary
Office of International Relations
Division of Administrative Services
Division of Corporations
Division of Cultural Affairs
Division of Elections
Division of Historical Resources
Division of Library and Information Services
Division of Licensing



# FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF STATE Sandra B. Mortham

Secretary of State

DIVISION OF HISTORICAL RESOURCES

July 16, 1997

Mr. Girlamo DiChiara
Construction - Operations Division
Jacksonville District Corps of Engineers
P. O. Box 4970
Jacksonville, Florida 32232-0019

In Reply Refer To: Robin D. Jackson Historic Sites Specialist Project File No. 972298

MEMBER OF THE FLORIDA CABINET Historic Florida Keys Preservation Board

Historic Pensacola Preservation Board

Historic St. Augustine Preservation Board

Historic Tallahassee Preservation Board Historic Tampa/Hillsborough County

Preservation Board

Ringling Museum of Art

Historic Palm Beach County Preservation Board

RE:

Cultural Resource Assessment Request

Public Notice PNIWW-215

Develop and Operate Two Dredged Material Management Areas - SJ-20a and SJ-29

(Moses Creek and Guana River)

St. Johns County, Florida

Mr. DiChiara:

In accordance with the procedures contained in 36 C.F.R., Part 800 ("Protection of Historic Properties"), we have reviewed the referenced project(s) for possible impact to historic properties listed, or eligible for listing, in the <u>National Register of Historic Places</u>. The authority for this procedure is the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), as amended.

A review of the Florida Site File indicates that no significant archaeological or historical sites are recorded for or likely to be present within the project area. Furthermore, because of the project location and/or nature it is unlikely that any such sites will be affected. Therefore, it is the opinion of this office that the proposed project will have no effect on historic properties listed, or eligible for listing, in the National Register of Historic Places.

If you have any questions concerning our comments, please do not hesitate to contact us. Your interest in protecting Florida's historic properties is appreciated.

Sincerely,

George W. Percy, Director Division of Historical Resources

and

State Historic Preservation Officer

Laure a. Kammere

GWP/Jrj

DIRECTOR'S OFFICE

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☐ ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESEARCH (904) 487-2299 ◆ FAX: 414-2207

HISTORIC PRESERVATION (904) 487-2333 • FAX: 922-0496

☐ HISTORICAL MUSEUMS (904) 488-1484 • FAX: 921-2503

#### **APPENDIX VI**

# FLORIDA COASTAL ZONE MANAGEMENT CONSISTENCY DETERMINATION

# FLORIDA COASTAL ZONE MANAGEMENT PROGRAM FEDERAL CONSISTENCY EVALUATION PROCEDURES

#### 1. Chapter 161, Beach and Shore Preservation

The intent of the coastal construction permit program established by this chapter is to regulate construction projects which are located seaward of the line of mean high water and which might have an effect on natural shoreline processes.

Response: The proposed work would not be seaward of the mean high water line and would not affect shorelines or shoreline processes.

#### 2. Chapters 186 and 187, State and Regional Planning

These chapters establish the State Comprehensive Plan which sets goals that articulate a strategic vision of the state's future. The plan's purpose is to define, in a broad sense, goals and policies that provide decision-makers directions for the future and provide long-range guidance for an orderly social, economic, and physical growth.

Response: The proposed work has been coordinated with state agencies through a series of meetings during preparation of the long-range dredged material management plan for St. Johns County.

# 3. Chapter 252, Disaster Preparation, Response and Mitigation

This chapter creates a state emergency management agency, with the authority to provide for the common defense; to protect the public peace, health and safety; and to preserve the lives and property of the people of Florida.

Response: The construction of the dredged material management facility would allow continued maintenance dredging in the IWW, thus ensuring a navigable waterway which could be used in emergency situations. Therefore, this work would be consistent with the efforts of the Division of Emergency Management.

#### 4. Chapter 253, State Lands

This chapter governs the management of submerged state lands and resources within state lands. This includes archeological and historical resources; water resources; fish and wildlife resources; beaches and dunes; submerged grass beds and other benthic communities; swamps, marshes, and other wetlands; mineral resources; unique natural features; submerged lands; spoil islands; and artificial reefs.

Response: The proposed work would not affect state lands. No known archaeological or historical resources would be affected by the construction of SJ-29. The containment basin configuration would minimize impact to isolated wetlands. Impacts on wetlands would be mitigated by the construction of wetlands in the buffer zone.

#### 5. Chapters 253, 259, 260, and 375, Land Acquisition

These chapters authorize the state to acquire land for a variety of purposes, including conservation and protection of environmentally sensitive areas and to provide parks and recreation areas, a recreational trails system, and outdoor recreation and conservation areas.

Response: The project area is not being considered for acquisition under the above chapters.

# 6. Chapter 258, State Parks and Aquatic Preserves

This chapter authorizes the state to manage state parks and aquatic preserves.

Response: The proposed work would not affect any parks or preserves and would, therefore, be consistent with this chapter.

#### 7. Chapter 267, Historic Preservation

This chapter establishes the procedures for implementing the Florida Historic Resources Act responsibilities.

Response: The State Division of Historic Resources has been contacted about this project. No known archaeological or historical resources are present on the site.

# 8. Chapter 288, Economic Development and Tourism

This chapter directs the state to provide guidance and promotion of beneficial development through encouraging economic diversification and promoting tourism.

Response: The creation of dredged material management facilities provides for maintenance dredging of the IWW channel. The IWW encourages recreational development and tourism. Therefore, the project would be consistent with the goals of this chapter.

# 9. Chapters 334 and 339, Public Transportation

This chapter authorizes the planning and development of a safe, balanced, and efficient transportation system.

Response: Maintenance dredging of the IWW channel would be facilitated by this project, promoting public navigation and intermodal transportation.

#### 10. Chapter 370, Saltwater Living Resources

This chapter directs the state to preserve, manage, and protect the marine, crustacean, shell, and anadromous fishery resources in state waters; to protect and enhance the marine and estuarine environment; to regulate fishermen and vessels of the state engaged in the taking of such resources within or without state waters; to issue licenses for the taking and processing products of fisheries; to secure and maintain statistical records of the catch of each such species; and to conduct scientific and economic studies and research.

Response: The construction of the dredged material management facility would not adversely affect saltwater living resources.

# 11. Chapter 372, Living Land and Freshwater Resources

This chapter establishes the Game and Freshwater Fish Commission and directs it to manage freshwater aquatic life and wild animal life and their habitat to perpetuate a diversity of species with densities and distributions which provide sustained ecological, recreational, scientific, educational, aesthetic, and economic benefits.

Response: Construction of SJ-29 would impact no significant living land or freshwater resources. Therefore, the work will comply with the goals of this chapter.

#### 12. Chapter 373, Water Resources

This chapter provides the authority to regulate the withdrawal, diversion, storage, and consumption of water.

Response: The proposed work does not involve water resources as described by this chapter.

# 13. Chapter 376, Pollutant Spill Prevention and Control

This chapter regulates the transfer, storage, and transportation of pollutants and the cleanup of pollutant discharges.

Response: The proposed work does not involve the transportation or discharging of pollutants.

#### 14. Chapter 377, Oil and Gas Exploration and Production

This chapter authorizes the regulation of all phases of exploration, drilling, and production of oil, gas, and other petroleum products.

Response: The proposed work does not involve the exploration, drilling, and production of oil, gas, and other petroleum products.

# 15. Chapter 380, Environmental Water and Land Management

This chapter establishes state land and water management policies to guide and coordinate local development decisions in order to adequately plan for Florida's future growth and development.

Response: Selection and design of the dredged material management area have been coordinated with state agencies and local governments.

#### 16. Chapter 388, Arthropod Control

This chapter provides for a comprehensive approach for abatement or suppression of mosquitos and other pest arthropods within the state.

Response: Mosquito control measures are described in the site management plan. Physical control through minimization of standing water inside the dike is the primary method of control. If necessary, short-term spraying would be coordinated through the local mosquito control authority.

# 17. Chapter 403, Environmental Control

This chapter authorizes the regulation of pollution of the air and waters of the state by the FDER.

Response: Air quality impacts due to the operation of construction equipment will be minor. Burning permits would be obtained if the cleared vegetation is burned. Therefore, the work would comply with the intent of this chapter.

# 18. Chapter 582, Soil and Water Conservation

This chapter establishes policy for the conservation of the state soil and water through the Department of Agriculture. Land use policies will be evaluated in terms of their tendency to cause or contribute to soil erosion or to conserve, develop, and utilize soil and water resources both on site or in adjoining properties affected by the work. Particular attention will be given to work on or near agricultural lands.

Response: The project would include a perimeter ditch around the dike to control runoff from the exterior face of the dike, perimeter road, and portions of the buffer. Existing vegetation would be preserved in the buffer between the facility and adjacent land.

# APPENDIX VII ARCHEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL RESOURCES REVIEW

#### **APPENDIX VIII**

# **COMPLIANCE WITH ENVIRONMENTAL LAWS AND REGULATIONS**

- 1. National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as amended. Environmental information on the project has been compiled and the draft Environmental Assessment was made available for public review through public notice in compliance with 33 CFR Parts 335-338. These regulations govern the Operations and Maintenance of US Army Corps of Engineers Civil Works Projects involving the Discharge of Dredged or Fill Material into Waters of the US or Ocean Waters. This public coordination and environmental impact assessment complies with the intent of NEPA. The process will fully comply with the Act once the District Commander has signed the Findings of No Significant Impact.
- 2. Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended. Consultation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service was initiated in 1998 for the purposes of Section 7 Coordination in conjunction with maintenance dredging of the Intracoastal Waterway. By letter dated July 14, 1999 (Appendix III), the USFWS determined that there would be no impacts any listed endangered species.

This project was fully coordinated under the Endangered Species Act; therefore, this project is in full compliance with the Act.

- 3. Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act of 1958, as amended. The project has been coordinated with the USFWS. It has previously prepared a Coordination Act Report for the project. Therefore, the project is in compliance with the Act.
- 4. National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended (PL 89-665). We have coordinated our no effect determination with the Florida State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO). The SHPO concurred with the determination that significant historic properties will not be effected by the proposed Dredge Material Management Area construction. Therefore, the project is in compliance with this Act and with the Archeological and Historic Preservation Act, as amended (PL 93-291).

# 5. Clean Water Act of 1972, as amended.

- 5.1. Section 401. The Water Quality Certificate has been applied for with the Department of Environmental Protection.
- 5.2. Section 404 (b)(1). This project will not involve the discharge of material into any wetlands or other waters of the United States. Therefore, the activity is not subject to this act.
- 6. Clean Air Act of 1972, as amended. No air quality permits will be required for this project. Therefore, this Act would not be applicable.

- 7. Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972, as amended. The project has been evaluated in accordance with Section 307 of the Coastal Zone Management Act. It has been determined that the project would have no unacceptable impacts and would be consistent with the Florida Coastal Zone Management Plan.
- 8. Farmland Protection Policy Act of 1981. No prime or unique farmland will be impacted by implementation of this project. This act is not applicable.
- 9. Wild and Scenic River Act of 1968, as amended. No designated Wild and Scenic river reaches will be affected by project related activities. This act is not applicable.
- 10. <u>Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972, as amended</u>. Incorporation of the safe guards used to protect manatees during dredging and disposal operations will be implemented during construction, therefore, this project is in compliance with the Act.
- 11. <u>Estuary Protection Act of 1968</u>. The Indian River Lagoon Estuary will not be adversely affected by project activities.
- **12.** Federal Water Project Recreation Act, as amended. There is no recreational development proposed for maintenance dredging or disposal. Therefore, this Act does not apply.
- 13. Resource Conservation and Recovery Act of 1976, (PL 94-580; 7 U.S.C. 100, et seq. This law has been determined not to apply, as there are no items regulated under this act being disposed of or affected by this project.
- 14. Toxic Substances Control Act of 1976, (PL 94-469; U.S.C. 2601, et seq. This law has been determined not to apply, as there are no items regulated under this act being disposed of or affected by this project.
- 15. E.O. 11990, Protection of Wetlands. No wetlands will be affected by project activities. This project is in compliance with the goals of this Executive Order.
- **16. E.O. 11988, Floodplain Management.** No activities associated with this project will take place within a floodplain; therefore this project is in compliance with the goals of this Executive Order.
- 17. Coastal Barrier Resources Act, PL 101-591. The proposed work is not within any Coastal Barrier as prepared by the Department of Interior in the Report to Congress on the Coastal Barrier Resources System. In accordance with 43 CFR Subtitle A, Section II. Exceptions and Consultation, Subsection Exceptions (2) Channel

Improvements (Section 6(a)(2)), the maintenance dredging and disposal are exempted from the Act.

18. Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act. This act requires that Essential Fish Habitat (EFH) be considered when undertaking any dredging project. The proposed action would not have an adverse impact on EFH or Federally managed fisheries. Our final determination relative to project impacts and the need for mitigation measures is subject to review by and coordination with the National Marine Fisheries Service.